

Please add the following new claims.

18. The process according to Claim 2

wherein, referring to the acetic acid ester, R¹ represents a tert-butyl group.

19. The process according to Claim 2

wherein a magnesium halide is added in permitting the lithium amide to act.

20. The process according to Claim 3

wherein a magnesium halide is added in permitting the lithium amide to act.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependency and to improve their format. None of these amendments is believed to involve any new matter.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendments be entered, that the application as so amended receive an examination on the merits, and that the claims as now presented receive an early allowance.

Respectfully submitted,



Burton A. Amernick (24,852)
Connolly Bove Lodge & Hutz LLP
1990 M Street, N.W., Suite 800
Washington, D.C. 20036-3425
Telephone: 202-331-7111

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